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SUBJECT: PORTUGAL BRIEFED ON PLANS FOR ASSISTANCE TO A FREE
CUBA

REF: SECSTATE 113702

On July 14, Pol/Econ Officer briefed MFA Latin American Affairs Deputy Directors Manuela Caldas Faria and Leandro Amado on the second report from the U.S. Commission for Assistance to a Free Cuba, detailing the U.S. strategy to assist in Cuba's transition process. Caldas Faria said she had heard about the Commission but had not known about the details until the demarche. She added that Portugal works within the EU context to promote human rights and democratic reform in Cuba and actively seeks contact with Cuban opposition groups and civil society. Portugal also maintains an open dialogue with and access to Cuban authorities.
Olson